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Identical letters dated 23 August 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the aggressive joint military exercise so-called "Ulji Freedom Guardian", which is now being conducted by the United States in south Korea against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

The United States-led large-scale joint military exercise in collusion with the south Korean forces, despite repeated warnings of the DPRK, is a grave military provocation aimed at launching a pre-emptive nuclear attack on the DPRK and a challenge to regional peace and stability in every way.

In particular, this joint military exercise is an unpardonable criminal act of pushing the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of a war as the situation has become unprecedentedly unstable owing to the introduction of nuclear strategic bombers, the anti-ballistic missile system of Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) and other strategic assets by the United States to the Korean peninsula and its vicinity.

The United States war games clearly prove that it is the United States which is instigating the vicious cycles of escalating confrontation and tension and creating the danger of war on the Korean peninsula.

Peace, security and a relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula and in the region are unthinkable unless the United States-south Korea aggressive joint military exercises are totally halted.

The United States-south Korea joint military exercises constitute a grave threat to the DPRK as well as international peace and security and deserve urgent consideration by the Security Council.

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Therefore, I request that the issue of the United States-south Korea joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I would like to recall that the Security Council has unjustifiably ignored the several requests of the DPRK to place the issue of the United States-south Korea joint military exercises on the agenda of the Council.

Should the Security Council again ignore the just request of the DPRK to discuss the United States-south Korea joint military exercises, it will expose of itself that it is not only giving up its primary mission of maintaining international peace and security, but also becoming a political tool of an individual Power, only serving the interests of the United States.

It is the consistent stand of the Government of the DPRK to fundamentally terminate the danger of a nuclear war posed by the United States by dint of the powerful nuclear deterrence and defend regional and global peace.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative